

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1

**Complete if Known**

Application Number	09/981,696
Confirmation Number	7316
Filing Date	October 16, 2001
First Named Inventor	Eiji KAWAI
Art Unit	3629
Examiner Name	Jonathan P. OUELLETTE
Attorney Docket Number	09812.0174

**U.S. PATENTS AND PUBLISHED U.S. PATENT APPLICATIONS**

Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Issue or Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
	US-				

Note: Submission of copies of U.S. Patents and published U.S. Patent Applications is not required.

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	Translation <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
	JP 11-230776		08-27-1999	TDK Corp		Yes
	JP 2000-023267		01-21-2000	Nippon Columbia Co Ltd		Yes
	JP 11-154179		06-08-1999	Hitachi Ltd		Yes

**NONPATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	Translation <sup>6</sup>

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
--------------------	-----------------

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.